

Senate Resolution 359

By: Senators Johnson of the 1st, Thomas of the 2nd and Hill of the 4th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Chairman James "Jay"
2 Burke III, the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal John Burke; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah will mark the 183rd occasion on
5 which this festive event has been held in this historic city with proud Irish roots; and

6 WHEREAS, this celebration was begun by the Hibernian Society of Savannah, which was
7 formed to aid the early Irish immigrants to Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, many Irish organizations have contributed to the longevity and success of this
9 celebration, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, which was formed in 1926, has
10 carried on the tradition for the past 81 years; and

11 WHEREAS, according to one of Ireland's former prime ministers, "Ireland is where strange
12 tales begin and happy endings are possible," and the same holds true for the beautiful City
13 of Savannah; and

14 WHEREAS, this historic annual parade is the 2nd largest Irish celebration in the nation,
15 attracting more than 300,000 visitors each year, and it is held in the lovely historic district
16 and is always a joyous and meaningful occasion for the citizens of Savannah, Chatham
17 County, and the State of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal John Burke, a United States
19 Marine from Savannah, Georgia, is the son of John J. Burke, who was born in County
20 Galway, Ireland; and

1 WHEREAS, the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal John Burke, has served on
2 the Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for more than 20 years, is the former
3 president of the Irish Heritage Society, and a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick; and

4 WHEREAS, John Burke's columns have appeared in the *Savannah Morning News* for more
5 than 45 years covering hunting, fishing, and the outdoors.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body recognizes and
7 honors the members of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Chairman James "Jay" Burke
8 III, and the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal John Burke for their tireless
9 efforts in organizing and their great work on behalf of the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade and
10 their many important contributions to their community and state.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
12 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee
13 Chairman James "Jay" Burke III and to the Grand Marshal of Savannah's 2007 St. Patrick's
14 Day Parade John Burke.